

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 045781
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00
EUR-12 ERDA-05 ISO-00 ACDA-07 /039 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ITP/EWT - RPRACHT:JAS
APPROVED BY EB/ITP/EWT - RPRACHT
ACDA/IR - MEISENSTEIN
EUR/NE - SWORRELL
EUR/SOV - JCOLBERT
DOD/ISA - LJAMES
COMM/OEA - EWALINSKY
RPE

-----021408 107893 /43

R 020255Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 045781

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, UK, SU

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE UK EXPORT OF FUEL CONTROL SYSTEM TO
USSR

REF: (A) LONDON 2816, (B) STATE 7330

1. DEPARTMENT INFORMED BY UK EMBASSY JANUARY 11 OF POSSIBLE
SALE OF FUEL CONTROL SYSTEM TO USSR (REF B). AT THAT TIME,
UK EMBASSY WAS UNABLE SUPPLY SUFFICIENT DETAILS ON TRANSAC-
TION TO PERMIT EVALUATION AND US POSITION. MAIN QUESTIONS
WERE (1) WHETHER FUEL CONTROL SYSTEM USUABLE OR ADAPTABLE
TO THE RUSSIAN BACKFIRE BOMBER AND (2) WHETHER EXTRACTABLE
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OR OTHER TECHNOLOGY WOULD BE PROVIDED TO SOVIETS WHICH COULD
BE USED FOR IMPROVEMENT OF BACKFIRE BOMBER. WE CANNOT
ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS WITHOUT FULL TECHNICAL DETAILS OF
FUEL CONTROL SYSTEM AND FURTHER DETAILS ON CONTRACT MADE BY
LUCAS AEROSPACE WITH SOVIETS. THE UK EMBASSY HAD PROMISED
TO PROVIDE US WITH FURTHER DETAILS WHEN AVAILABLE.

2. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE INITIAL USG CONCERN OVER THE PROPOSED SALE TO THE USSR. THIS IS BASED UPON PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATIONS THAT THE SUBJECT TECHNOLOGY IF APPLIED TO THE SOVIET BACKFIRE BOMBER COULD IN PARTICULAR ASSURE GREATER RANGE/PAYLOAD CAPABILITY OF THEIR NAVAL AIR IN EUROPEAN AND NORTH ATLANTIC OPERATIONS. THE UK AS WELL AS OTHER NATO COUNTRIES SHOULD SHARE THIS CONCERN. SUCH TECHNOLOGY COULD ALSO BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE SOVIETS IN POWERING EXISTING AND FUTURE MILITARY AIRCRAFT. INCREASED RANGE CAPABILITIES FOR THE BACKFIRE WOULD ALSO GIVE GREATER CREDENCE TO ESTIMATES OF THE BACKFIRE LONG RANGE STRATEGIC BOMBER ROLE, WHICH IS AN ISSUE COMPLICATING SALT NEGOTIATIONS. ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL STUDY OF SUBJECT EQUIPMENT WILL BE NEEDED TO PROVIDE MORE SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS.

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INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00
EUR-12 ERDA-05 ISO-00 ACDA-07 SSO-00 /039 R

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DRAFTED BY: EB/ITP:EWT-RPRACHT

APPROVED BY: EB/ITP:EWT-RPRACHT

ACDA/IR-MEISENSTEIN

EUR/SOV-JCOLBERT

COMM/OEA-EWALINSKY

EUR/NE-SWORREL

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TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

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REF: LONDON 4318

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 45781 ACTION OECD PARIS DTD 02 MAR

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1. DEPARTMENT INFORMED BY UK EMBASSY JANUARY 11 OF POSSIBLE SALE OF FUEL CONTROL SYSTEM TO USSR (REF B). AT THAT TIME, UK EMBASSY WAS UNABLE SUPPLY SUFFICIENT DETAILS ON TRANSACTION TO PERMIT EVALUATION AND US POSITION. MAIN QUESTIONS WERE (1) WHETHER FUEL CONTROL SYSTEM USUABLE OR ADAPTABLE TO THE RUSSIAN BACKFIRE BOMBER AND (2) WHETHER EXTRACTABLE OR OTHER TECHNOLOGY WOULD BE PROVIDED TO SOVIETS WHICH COULD BE USED FOR IMPROVEMENT OF BACKFIRE BOMBER. WE CANNOT ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS WITHOUT FULL TECHNICAL DETAILS OF FUEL CONTROL SYSTEM AND FURTHER DETAILS ON CONTRACT MADE BY LUCAS AEROSPACE WITH SOVIETS. THE UK EMBASSY HAD PROMISED TO PROVIDE US WITH FURTHER DETAILS WHEN AVAILABLE.

2. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE INITIAL USG CONCERN OVER THE PROPOSED SALE TO THE USSR. THIS IS BASED UPON PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATIONS THAT THE SUBJECT TECHNOLOGY IF APPLIED TO THE SOVIET BACKFIRE BOMBER COULD IN PARTICULAR ASSURE GREATER RANGE/PAYLOAD CAPABILITY OF THEIR NAVAL AIR IN EUROPEAN AND NORTH ATLANTIC OPERATIONS. THE UK AS WELL AS OTHER NATO COUNTRIES SHOULD SHARE THIS CONCERN. SUCH TECHNOLOGY COULD ALSO BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE SOVIETS IN POWERING EXISTING AND FUTURE MILITARY AIRCRAFT. INCREASED RANGE CAPABILITIES FOR THE BACKFIRE WOULD ALSO GIVE GREATER CREDENCE TO ESTIMATES OF THE BACKFIRE LONG RANGE STRATEGIC BOMBER ROLE, WHICH IS AN ISSUE COMPLICATING SALT NEGOTIATIONS. ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL STUDY OF SUBJECT EQUIPMENT WILL BE NEEDED TO PROVIDE MORE SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES, EQUIPMENT, STRATEGIC TRADE CONTROLS, ALLEGATIONS, JET FUEL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: RPRACHT:JAS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770071-1099
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703100/aaaadknl.tel
Line Count: 166
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4c3788ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LONDON 2816, 77 STATE 7330
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2937507
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE UK EXPORT OF FUEL CONTROL SYSTEM TO USSR
TAGS: ESTC, UK, UR, COCOM
To: OECD PARIS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4c3788ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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